

Claims

- [c1] A door trim panel for attachment to a door frame of a motor vehicle, comprising:
a main body portion adapted to be removably secured to the door frame, said main body portion including an integral support surface; and
an armrest fastened to said main body portion, said armrest including a plurality of spaced-apart projections positioned to contact said integral support surface to thereby support said armrest.
- [c2] The door trim panel of claim 1 wherein said main body portion includes a plurality of tab openings positioned peripherally about said integral support surface, and said armrest includes a plurality of spaced-apart locking tabs each positioned to engage a corresponding one of said plurality of tab openings.
- [c3] The door trim panel of claim 2 wherein each of said plurality of spaced-apart locking tabs includes a wedge-shaped body adapted to engage said main body portion about a corresponding one of said tab openings.
- [c4] A door trim panel for attachment to a door frame of a

motor vehicle, comprising:

a main body portion adapted to be removably secured to the door frame, said main body portion including an access opening;

a bolster removably secured to said main body portion, said bolster covering said access opening, and said bolster including an integral support surface; and

an armrest fastened to said bolster, said armrest including a plurality of spaced-apart projections positioned to contact said integral support surface to thereby support said armrest.

[c5] The door trim panel of claim 4 wherein said bolster includes a plurality of tab openings positioned peripherally about said integral support surface, and said armrest includes a plurality of spaced-apart locking tabs each positioned to engage a corresponding one of said plurality of tab openings.

[c6] The door trim panel of claim 5 wherein each of said plurality of spaced-apart locking tabs includes a wedge-shaped body adapted to engage said main body portion about a corresponding one of said tab openings.

[c7] A method of making a door trim panel for mounting to a door frame of a motor vehicle, comprising:
molding a bolster of the door trim panel with an integral

support surface;
mounting an armrest to the door trim panel; and
contacting a plurality of projections projecting from an
armrest with the integral support surface on the bolster
to support the armrest when the armrest is mounted to
the door trim panel.

[c8] The method of claim 7 wherein molding the bolster further comprises:

molding the bolster integral with a main body portion of the door trim panel.

[c9] The method of claim 7 further comprising:

engaging the bolster in an access opening formed in a main body of the door trim panel.

[c10] The method of claim 7 wherein mounting the armrest to the door trim panel further comprises:

providing a plurality of tab openings surrounding a periphery of the integral support surface; and
engaging a plurality of locking tabs on the armrest with the plurality of tab openings.